Core Content for Writing Assessment

Draft for Assessment Contractors

Version 4.0
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Kentucky Department of Education

Kentucky
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Introduction Core Content for Writing Assessment

What is the *Core Content for Writing Assessment*?
The *Core Content for Writing Assessment* represents the writing content from Kentucky's Academic Expectations and *Program of Studies* that is the culminating product of a school-wide writing program. Version 4.0 Core Con*tent for Writing Assessment* is to provide focus for the development of the Kentucky Core Content Test (KCCT) and the writing portfolio for test administration beginning in 2007.

The *Core Content for Writing Assessment* represents components of the comprehensive local curriculum for writing assessment and instruction. The comprehensive *Program of Studies for Writing* specifies that "Students use the writing process and criteria for effective writing in pieces developed over time, as well as in on-demand writing situations, to compile a collection of writing for a variety of authentic purposes and audiences and in a variety of forms, including personal, literary, transactive, and reflective pieces."

Kentucky Academic Expectations for Writing

The Kentucky Academic Expectations define what students should know and be able to do upon graduation from high school. These expectations were used as a basis for developing the *Program of Studies* and the *Core Content for Assessment.*

The academic expectation for writing is listed below:

Goal 1: Students are able to use basic communication and mathematics skills for purposes and situations they will encounter throughout their lives.

1.11: Students write using appropriate forms, conventions, and styles to communicate ideas and information to different audiences for different purposes.

How is the *Core Content for Writing Assessment* organized?
The *Core Content for Writing Assessment*, Version 4.0 is organized by grade level (end of primary, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and high school) in order to ensure vertical alignment. *Core Content for Writing Assessment* is divided into four sections:
- Writing Content
- Writing Structure
- Writing Conventions
- Writing Process

The **Writing Content** section is organized into criteria: Purpose/Audience, Idea Development/Support.

The **Writing Structure** section is organized into criteria: Organization and Sentence Structure.

The **Writing Conventions** section is organized into criteria: Language and Correctness.

The **Writing Process** section is organized into stages: Inviting the Writing, Prewriting, Drafting, Revising, Editing, Publishing and Reflecting.

Version 4.0 differs from the previous Version 3.0 in the elaboration of the criteria for each category of writing, i.e., Reflective, Personal Expressive/Literary, Transactive across grade levels. Version 4.0 also defines stages of the writing process including skills for revising and editing.

This version of the *Core Content for Writing Assessment* includes content standards for grades not currently state assessed, as well as content for the currently assessed grades (four, five, seven, eight, and twelve).

What do the codes for the *Core Content for the Writing Assessment* mean?
Each content statement is preceded by a code. The code begins with WR for Writing and is then followed by a grade level designation and then a 3-digit number that indicates reporting category. The codes used are listed below.

Grade Level Codes	Big Ideas	Criteria/Process Code	Category Code

EP = End of Primary
04 = 4th Grade
05 = 5th Grade
06 = 6th Grade
07 = 7th Grade
08 = 8th Grade
HS= High School
	1 = Writing Content
	2 = Writing Structure
	3 = Writing Conventions
	4 = Writing Process
		1 = Purpose/Audience
		2 = Idea Development/
		    Support
		3 = Organization
		4 = Sentences
		5 = Language
		6 = Correctness
		7 = Inviting the Writing
		8 = Prewriting
		9 = Drafting
		10 = Revising
		11 = Editing
		12 = Publishing
		13 = Reflecting
			01 = Reflective
			02 = Personal/ Literary
			03 = Transactive
			04-36= Skills that apply to
			    all Categories

A typical code may look like WR-04-1.1.01. This means the following:

        WR-04-1.1.01

        WR-Writing

           04- 4th Grade

             1. Big Idea -Writing Content

               1. Criteria- Purpose/Audience

               01- Category- Reflective

Some statements are designated as "supporting content" and are not used for state assessment. Supporting content is critical to the student's deep understanding of the overall content and is to be used by schools to build a foundation of knowledge, skills, and processes that will enable students to be successful on the Kentucky Core Content Test and

Writing Portfolio. Supporting content statements are proposed for local instruction and assessment and appear in italics in the Core Content document. The content statements for state assessment are in **bold print**.

Some Core Content standards contain additional information in parentheses. If there is a list inside with an e.g., preceding it, that means the examples included are meant to be just that, examples.